



Dear Children's Caucusers

Thank you for joining us last week! Whether online, focusing on Academic Freedom at our membership meeting, or in person, for the Campaigning-Social, we appreciate the engagement!

A collage of three promotional graphics for the CADEM Children's Caucus. The left graphic features the CADEM logo and the slogan "Our Voice is Their Voice" with the website CADEMChildrensCaucus.org. The middle graphic is a "JOIN US!" announcement for two meetings in San Francisco, February 16 & 20-22, 2026, focusing on "Resourcing Education: Perspectives on Academic Freedom, University to UTK" with a list of speakers including Dr. Sheldon Gen, Dr. Theresa Montano, Ms. Zeena Pliska, and Dr. Aleta Rose. The right graphic is for a "Social gathering of the Children's Caucus membership, and the advocate-candidates who would present to us their winning ideas" on Friday, February 20, 2026, from 7:30 pm - 9:15 pm at the Moscone Center in San Francisco, with a QR code for more information.

Review the discussion on our [youtube channel here](#)

The lineup of candidates and their websites is [here](#).

Monday night's agenda is [here](#).

Our membership meeting focused on the subject of **academic freedom**, which, as Michael Ignatieff explains in [this](#)* essay, "has become a defining issue in the geostrategic competition between liberal democracies and their authoritarian challengers. ... It is also at the center of the authoritarian populist challenge to liberal democracy in free societies."

With our world-class CA educational system threatened by MAGA and the executive in DC, we heard from four experts in what academic freedom actually means and looks like and how it manifests itself in its constituent levels – the Academy, High School and early elementary education.

- ***Dr. Sheldon Gen***; Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs, Professor of Public Administration, San Francisco State University [Post-secondary]
- ***Dr. Guadalupe Carrasco Cardona***; Magnet Studies Coordinator (LAUSD), Ethnic Studies Educator [Secondary]
- ***Ms. Zeena Pliska***; Children's Book Author, Transitional Kindergarten Teacher, LAUSD [Primary]
- ***Dr. Aleta Rose***; Elementary School Principal, LAUSD [Primary]

State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) candidates were invited to remark briefly on the presentation, and what it means in the context of the CA Department of Education. Two candidates were present for the full presentation and a third was able to join the discussion afterwards. There were questions, answers and some shrewd conversation about not just how these principles play out in real time but some of the underlying forces that fetter its expression.

<https://direct.mit.edu/daed/article/153/2/194/121270/The-Geopolitics-of-Academic-Freedom-Universities>

Resourcing Education: Perspectives on Academic Freedom, University to UTK

About that email loop...

Despite settings to exclude intruders, several inappropriate posts to our members' email loop have sparked some cleaning of our own email lists. If you *did not* receive notification of the list's phoenix rebirth, and/or you wish to arise with its new incarnation, please drop an email to [***chair.cademcc@gmail.com***](mailto:chair.cademcc@gmail.com).

The email [***googlegroup***](#) is meant as a place for active members to discuss concerns around children's issues. If your membership has lapsed please consider renewing it today:

[***Remit CademCC membership dues***](#)

[***Request membership dues waiver***](#)

Membership pins (\$25 contribution offsetting dues waivers) **will be available for pickup at our next in person meeting** (rumored for late July);

ASK PLEASE if we still owe you yours!

Your Voice; Ways To Join In With CademCC

KidNetwork Organizing



CademCC has been supporting the work of kid-centered political Clubs throughout the state's 58 counties. We need to know when and how children's spaces are politicized the better to protect and support our kids mutually.

JoinUS! by growing this network, whether by organizing in your own area or eliding with others. For more details, please email our network coordinator **Genice Jacobs** or **chair.cademcc@gmail.com**.

Extremism At Our Schools

Stay Tuned for a solidarity-boosting viewing of the newly released documentary, **Moms Club**, featuring several CademCC members and past presenters discussing the extremism on display across some Southern California schools and school boards.

We hope to arrange an exclusive CademCC screening for our members, but in the meantime if you want to support this truth-telling or are eager to see the film sooner than later, please contact **Rocky & Miranda**.

Sunday March 1st at 4pm PT

School Board Candidate Training

JoinUS! for another edifying down ballot candidate training (with special focus on school board candidates) led by CADEM Children's Caucus Chair Emerita **Ann Crosbie**. Please visit **DemEdAlliance** for more details.

Sunday, March 15, 2pm - 4pm

Review the Children's Caucus SSPI Forum

Find the forum video on our youtube page, [here](#).



JOIN US!
Candidate Forum
State Superintendent of
Public Instruction

Moderator
Erin Aubry Kaplan

Followed by action in FAVOR of Prop 50:
Fight to secure federal support for
kids' education, health and welfare!
click [HERE](#) to sign up for 2pm phone bank

Saturday, Sept 13, 2025 @ 9:00am
[CADEMChildrensCaucus.org](#)

Foreign Born registration!
Email: [info@cademccssp.org](#)
Click for 2pm phonebank registration

• Richard Barrera,
San Diego Unified BOE

• Nichelle Henderson,
LACCD Trustee

• Andra Hoffman,
LACCD Trustee

• Al Muratsuchi,
CA State Assembly

• Josh Newman,
CA State Senate (Imr)

• Anthony Rendon,
Speaker CA Assembly (Imr)

CADEM
CHILDREN'S CAUCUS

COME AND
TAKE IT

And our advance discussion with the caucus about [the State Superintendent of Public Instruction \(SSPI\) post](#) queued up [here](#).

Legislative Cabinet

CademCC convenes regularly to study legislation around children's issues, whether in consideration locally, statewide, or federally. Convey your interest in meetings topically-centered or with specific legislators sharing their kid-centric legislative packages with our membership: chair.cademcc@gmail.com

As a constituent entity of the California Democratic Party, CademCC may recommend a position to the CADEM Legislative Committee, but has no voice independent of the state Central Committee. However our members, comprised of individuals who engage and advocate on behalf of children professionally and avocationally, do.

Your Children's Caucus

...is healthy and growing! Our steering committee meets monthly and all members are welcome to bring your own ideas ~ email the chair for details [here](#). We'll conduct special meetings and **Conversations** with our elected officials and Party leaders all year long. **JoinUS** on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [youtube](#), [Linktr.ee](#), via [newsletter](#), [email](#) and [website](#), or however you might prefer and wish to help us as we continue to forward information, resources and support around children's issues.

Communications:

- Ann Crosbie, Nelson Tam

CademCC Executive

Board:

Sara Roos, Chair
Matthew Hilliard, NoCal
ViceChair
Wade Kyle, SoCal ViceChair
Tiffany Sickler, Treasurer
Aba Ngissah, Secretary

Elections Chair:

- Koreen Cea

Operations Team:

- Liz Kane, James Moffat,
Ahmanise Sanati

Programming:

- Sam Davis, Vinita Verma

Statewide Networking:

- Genice Jacobs

Your dues support caucus infrastructure and communications, and membership dues for those in need. Our pin-membership drive has been a great success; please **be in touch if we still owe you yours**, or if you'd like to learn how to obtain one (chair.cademcc@gmail.com).

A shout-out in gratitude to those who have contributed beyond the standard level in 2026:

Benefactor

👤 Mia Bonta
👤 Lanier Coles

👤 Brandee Marckmann
👤 Renay Grace
Rodriguez

👤 Keri Then
👤 Clint Weirick

Mentor

👤 Richard Barrera
👤 Sabrina Bazzo

👤 Koreen Hamer-Cea
👤 Eileen Hatrick
👤 Samantha Helton

👤 Genice Jacobs
👤 Michael Lee-Chang
👤 Kendra Lewis

Patron

👤 Artie Blanco
👤 Ann Bowler
👤 Jeri Bromley
👤 Sarah Butler
👤 Lindsay Carlson
👤 Allyson Damikolas
👤 Jennifer DiBrienza
👤 Chris Espinoza
👤 Sergio Farias
👤 Caneisha Fortner

👤 Brian Guerrero
👤 Nazish Hamid
👤 Bonnie Hamilton
👤 Jeanna Harris
👤 Nichelle Henderson
👤 Ever Huerta
👤 Elizabeth Kane
👤 Ann Keating
👤 Diana Love
👤 Shirley Mckeown

👤 Samuel Penrod
👤 Frank Porter
👤 Aleta Rose
👤 Jason Ruiz
👤 Angela Scott
👤 Tiffany Sickler
👤 John Smith
👤 Sybil Smith
👤 Erin Spivey
👤 Analisa Swan

CademCC's current membership numbers 215, including 33 reduced and waived-dues members. Your contribution at a higher than "regular" level helps sustain membership for all. Last year's members hailed from all but 8 assembly districts: {36, 43, 45, 47, 48, 53, 54, 58}. Help us to extend our reach to the far corners of all California this year!

To join the Children's Caucus for 2026, click [here](#) to pay membership dues (press on the fifth "+" down), or [here](#) to request waiver of

membership dues.

Dues paid November-December 2025 were grandfathered for 2026.

Thank you all for renewing your CademCC membership right now!

Standard Dues
(\$15/annum)

Update Your Caucus Membership ~

Pre-registered Democrat (Youth; \$5/annum)

Patron-level Dues
(\$25/annum)

Dues support our hybrid programming costs - media and communications subscriptions, conference meeting facilities

Benefactor-level Dues (Lifetime; \$500)

Mentor-level Dues
(\$50/annum)

Request of Dues Waiver

CademCC Statement On ICE Incursions

The raids throughout California – from Elementary School graduations, children’s CIF finals, grocery stores, growing fields and immigration courts – unveil an agenda of terror, intimidation, and menace. America’s democracy morphs into totalitarianism before the eyes of our children.

CHIRLA - 213.353.1333

Los Angeles - 888.624.4752

Boyle Heights (L.A.) - 323.805.1049

San Bernardino/Riverside - 909.361.4588

ORALE (Long Beach) - 562.276.0267

Orange County - 714.881.1558

Sta Barbara/Ventura/SLO - 805.870.8855

Central Valley - 559.206.0151

Kern County - 661.432.2230

San Francisco - 415.200.1548

Contra Costa - 925.900.5151

Alameda - 510.241.4011

Sacramento - 916.382.0256

Immigrant Defenders - 213.833.8283

GI Rights hotline - 877.447.4487

If you see ICE/HSI, call your Rapid Response Network to alert and protect your community



Follow your Rapid Response Network on social media for information, training, e.g.: @chirla_org, @ocrrn, @rrn_kern

The Children’s Caucus of the Democratic Party of California condemn the attacks upon our communities. **We call for** calm and control by our elected, bi-cameral leaders, who must halt the overreach of our executive branch. Please feel free to share these phone numbers for reporting immigration citations or requesting community assistance.

Pass It On ...

Immigrant and civil rights are very much on the minds of our members, working closely with children and families at risk.



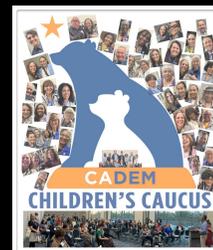
Here is a “red card” of information for you to keep on hand, with printer’s instructions, from the **Immigrant Legal Resource Center**.

More Caucus links

- Socials:
 - 👉 Locate our growing [WEBSITE here](#)
 - 👉 Find CDP Children's Caucus on [Facebook here](#)
 - 👉 Follow us on [Instagram @childrenscaucus here](#)
 - 👉 Watch our [youtube channel @cdpchildrenscaucus here](#)
 - 👉 Gaze [@cdpchildrenscaucus.bsky.socials here](#)
 - 👉 Peruse CademCC's Linktr.ee [@cademchildrenscaucus here](#)
- Engagement:
 - 👉 Download missed newsletters [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)
 - 👉 Prioritize a working committee [here](#)
 - 👉 Signup for the email listserv with fellow caucus members [here](#)
 - ...then communicate directly with the membership via [email](#)
- Caucus business:
 - 👉 Review the 2024 Annual Children's Caucus Report [here](#)
 - 👉 View 2024's recertified Bylaws [here](#)
 - 👉 Submit this year's caucus dues [here](#); (request dues waiver [here](#))

A note on membership and inclusion

* You needn't be an elected or appointed delegate to the CDP to belong to the CDP Children's Caucus! We require only your interest in supporting children's issues. *



CDP caucus membership is accessible to all California Democrats. And meeting attendance does not require Convention or Eboard Meeting registration. It is a good way to engage the state Party, without being a voting delegate to it. Dues are collected annually [here](#); request a hardship waiver [here](#). Direct questions to: chair.cademcc@gmail.com. If you no longer wish to receive news from the Children's Caucus, please accept our apologies for troubling you, and simply unsubscribe through the automated link below.



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